MRS. L. L. POLK, -PROPRIETOR. EDITOR. I. L. RAMSEY, J. W. DENMARK, - BUSINESS M'G'E.

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BALEIGH, N. C., SEPT. 7, 1897 This paper entered as second-class matter at the Post Office in Raloigh, N. C.

The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' State Alliance

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# N. R. P. A.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

Reports from all over the State ind cate that crops are unusually good.

The Round Knob hotel must be pretty hot, judging from the rapidity with which the Railroad Commissioners dropped it.

the devil around stump" has become of the legislature who formed the com obsolete. Up to date people say: "whip | mission had won a great fight and were the devil around Round Knob."

rates as quickly as he decided to deed ted an out and out railroad man as one away his interest in that hotel after the of the commissioners. Governor got after him, there will be great rejoicing.

Now that some of the railroad com missioners have given up the hotel business, the public naturally expect them to find time to reduce passenger and freight rates.

The report of Mr. C. F. Von Herman of the Weather Bureau, Raleigh, for the month of August has been received at this (flice. The mean temperature for the month was one degree higher than the average of same for the past 11 years. During the month there were 11 clear days, 7 clouds, and 13 partly cloudy days.

Bro. T. B Parker asks us to say to the brethren that Bro. T. Ivey is act ing as State Business Agent yet and will till Nov. 1st. All letters or orders for goods should be addressed to him at Hillsboro, and he will give them prompt attentiou. "I trust the breth ren will consider the importance of the Agency, and send it all the orders they can," adds Bro Parker.

tober. It is none too soon to get in have a soothing off ct upon Commis some good work for the Alliance just sioner S. O. Wilson. It might have now. Let every farmer, regardless of failed, but it would not have been the politics, get to work and build up the fault of the Southern Railway people. Order. Let the October meetings be long remembered for spirit and enyou do your part?

The folks down in the Palmetto State | back. eem to be getting in some good work. Senator Tillman says he is fighting the devil, and we learn that some Mountville negroes are preparing to bury the same gent. For the benefit of Senator reported to keep about as large a supply of pitchforks as the Senator himfor a lively tussle between the two says: rivals in the pitchfork business.

trust is about to be formed to keep up Secretary of the Treasury, sold himself ries, will do well to make a note of it. the prices of that vehicle. It is too for a price to what these ignoramuses bad that an article that costs from \$5 | call "the Money Power," and that he to \$15 to manufacturers should not be is rolling in luxury and wealth off the of the bicy cle trust make that much ter of fact, he is a poor man, who, intomers too.

## THE RAILROAD COMMISSION.

Last week we published letters from Gov. Russell to Railroad Commission ers J. W. Wilson and S. O. Wilson, requiring them to appear at the Executive office on the first day of September and show cause why they should not be removed from office. This week we publish in full their personal denials and some affidavits.

Both deny that they have been en gaged in anything that would disqual ify them. Major Wilson opened the ball with the following: "It is not true, as alleged, that I am the joint owned with Col. Andrews, the Vice-President and general political manager of the Southern Railway in the Round Knob Hotel property." But he goes right on and admits that he and Col. Andrews tuilt the hotel jointly and owned it in the same way up to about Saturday, August 28th, 1897, when he deeded away his interest in the property "to avoid even the appearance of evil.' This disposition of his interest was made four days after Governor Russell called him to account, and four days before the trial. He further states that he mentioned this property in a casual conversation with Mr. S. O. Wilson and this brought about the renting of the hotel property to Mr. S. O. Wilson's mother.

It must be plain to all that Gov. Russell had not been misinformed as to Maj Wilson's part in the hotel busi ness, and it is a clear cut case. The only question now for decision is whether or not such joint ownership disqualifies him for the place he holds.

In our opinion, Maj Wilson has never been qualified. He has always been a railroad man. His heart is on that side. We can't say that he would really do a dishonest act for the rail roads, but he is too tender hearted for a railroad commissioner. He will never favor the cutting of rates to a fair basis, and ought to be retired. The railroads, possibly, might create the office of "Chief Mourner," or some thing like that for him. He should not be kept in a position where he is constantly brought face to face with the stern duty of protecting poor struggling corporations when a rich and powerful populace insists on getting its rights. When the commission was created the railroads won their first victory by getting him elected as one That old phrase about "whipping of the Commissioners. The members disposed to be generous, but they If Maj. Wilson will decide to reduce made a great mistake when they elec

Mr. S O. Wilson denies owning any interest in any railroad property, and states that he assisted his mother in renting the Round Knob hotel, and that he and his family spent part of the summer there on the advice of a physician, paying board as others did. His statement and accompanying affi davits are published elsewhere in this

The Southern Railroad Company didn't need any trap to catch the good will of Maj Wilson, for it was under stood that he would never desert his first love. But that hotel business was evidently a neat little game to get Mr. S. O. Wilson 'fixed." Possibly Col. Andrews knew nothing about the transaction, but Maj Wilson had an eye to business. It was not wrong for Mrs. Wilson to rent the hotel property. It was not wrong for the railroad company to stop all its through passenger trains there, but to any one acquainted with the shrewd and apparently inno cent moves of smart men, it is plainly evident that they hoped to be so cour-County Alliances meet again in Oc | teous and kind that in time it would

It seems that the two commissioners thusiasm. And they will be so, if have "flung up" Round Knob. A wag every farmer will begin to day and says they did it like the buzzard when henceforth do his whole duty. Will he swallowed the fish; he threw it up when the fish hawk clawed him in the

## FACTS MAY TELL ANOTHER STORY.

Henry Watterson, a late edition of Benedict Arnold, has gotten back at Tillman, we will state that Old Nick is his editorial deak on the Louisville Courier Journal. He has just come out with a defense of that other Beneself. Remembering this fact, we look diet Arnold, John G. Carlisle. He have it.

"It is distinctly charged and inces-An exchange says that "a bicycle santly reiterated that Mr. Carlisle, as sold from \$75 to \$150." If these men proceeds of his corruption. As a mat profit—in other words, if they steal stead of enjoying the well earned rethis much from their customers—they pose of his old age, is working as hard bers elected by the people, and the day. will probably have a "scorching" time for a living as any young lawyer start members of congress looped off at a few years from now. They will probing out in practice. All that he had to least one half, and the supreme court able "scorch" for a much longer time do during the six years that he was dumped into the sea, suit you far betthan some of their more virtuous cus- Speaker of the House was to reach out ter than our present aristocratic horde and get whatever a venal man might of debauched nonetities?

want. There is still a mortgage on the roof that shelters him."

Now the funny part of the whole business is that people do not know whether or not there is a mortgage on Carlisle's house. A mere statement from the pen of Henry Watteson does not carry conviction. There are ninety and nine chances to one that there is no mortgage on his house.

But it would not be surprising. Much better men than Carlisle have had such troubles to contend with. Carlisle has spent much of his life in debauchery and his salary as a member of Congress and as Secretary of the Treasury did not go very far in a thing of that kind.

But, granting that there is still a mortgage on his house, that is not strong proof that he did not sell out to the "money power." His course as Secretary of the Treasury indicated that he did sell out, but he may be like other smart thieves, who usually conceal the swag. Bring on some more proof, Mr. Watterson.

#### SOME MANHOOD STILL LERT/IN PRESS AND PEOPLE.

That the American people are still advocates of the right of free speech and that they are earnest advocates. too, is shown by the fact that the cor poration of Brown University, in view of the criticisms of press and people, have most earnestly requested ex Presi dent Andrews to take his former posi tion at the head of that institution. The corporation has discovered that the honor of the university is worth more than gold. One thing has been demonstrated-the monopolists must be a little less bold. Such shameless and inexcusable action will not be al lowed to pass without the heartiest condemnation.

This is a free country, and when any man or set of men let it be known that no man who dares to disagree with the corporations can remain with a certain institution, then it is that the institution in question falls into dis

The address of the corporation to President Andrews last Thursday in part is as follows:

To the President of Brown Univer

"The Corporation of Brown Univer sity has this day received with the greatest regret your resigntiaon as President. It most earnestly desires that you will withdraw it. It conceives that it was written without full knowledge of the position of the cor poration. With the earnest hope that a statement by it bearing the formal sanction and approval of the governing body of the university as a whole, may bring us again into hearty accord, the corprration desires to assure you that it in no way sought the severance of our official relations, which, so far as it knows, have been most cordial from the time of your acceptance of the Presidency of the university.

"The only vote and only expression hitherto made by the corporation bearing upon the question at issue was at the last June meeting, and consisted of the appointment of a committee to confer with you as to the interests of the University. The extent of authority thus given its committee was that of conference, which it fully believes you would unhesitatingly admit was a legitimate and friendly exercise of its privilege relating, in the terms of the vote, to the interests of the University, which you and the corporation have closely at heart.

"It is perfectly true that the vote in question was occasioned by the differing views entertained on the one hand by you and on the other hand by most and probably all of the members of the corporation as to the free and unlimited coinage of silver by the United States, so far at least as affecting the interests of the University, and the fear that your views with reference to it, pub licly known or expressed, might, per haps, in some degree, be assumed to be representative and not merely indi

We do not believe that President Andrews will reconsider his withdrawal, but whatever the result may be, this is a victory for the people. It is proof positive that they are not ready to surrender their rights; that they admire the man who has the courage of his convictions, and that the man or the institution that makes himself or itself the pliant tool of plutocracy does not deserve their respect and does not

The people still rule. Monopolists will please bear this in mind and those who, like Shermar, have short memo-Secre another one for the manhood of the American people!

Wouldn't direct legislation, with a president voted for direct, and the senate either abolished, or the mem-

# CYLINDRICAL BALING.

Trouble seems to hover round about the Southern farmer, especially the cotton farmer. A few years ago the bagging trust seemed ready to swallow up quite a lote of his hard earned profits, and just how well it would have succeeded had it not been for the Farmers' Alliance will probably never be known. Organization is essential to defeat organizations, and when the farmers of our Southland stood firm and united against the encroachments of the jute bagging trust, the trust went down and they came off more than conquerers. Just now a trust in comparison with

which the bagging trust pales into in-

significance, looms up in the horizon of the cotton planters' world, the need of a firm and powerful organization to hold this trust in check must once more be apparent to every thinking farmer in the South. This trust is known by the harmless and inoffensive name of the American Cotton Com pany. It is yet in its infancy and it behooves every live cotton planter and every farmer to get to work to see that this trust does not get more powerful than the cotton producer himself. Some of our contemporaries may laugh at this. Let them laugh. You stick a pin here and bear this article in mind. This American Cotton Company has attempted to don sheep's clothing, but there is still sufficient evidence to prove it a wolf. One think at least is clear: this company has splendid op portunities to become a most gigantic and powerful trust and it is our can did opinion that the tricksters who are at its head are not such fools as to neglect there opportunities. Searles, who is Secretary of the Sugar Trust, one of the greatest trusts on earth, is president of this American Cotton Company, and he will not be likely to exchange says, "we welcome the sweet cotton will be something like this: neglect such an opportunity. You may | college girl with open arms." A brothrely on that. For something more of er editor says he would do the same tion lines will be induced or forced to their plans, see clipping in another column headed "Jones' Trust."

Their scheme is to get presses estab lished all over the South and do the work for farmers at starvation prices until they can get the cotton crop under their control. The next step is to get insurance and transportation companies to give special favors to those whose cotton is in cylindrical bales under pretext that it will be so much more easily handled. Finally, by entirely removing the profit to be made on cotton not packed in cylindrical bales the American Cotton Company will get the entire cotton crop of the South under their control, and then-and then-? Just wait and see. Stick a pin here and wait four or five years. The thing can be crushed now. If it is not, the horny-handed sons of toil will at ffer the consequences. If this trust gets in control of the South's cotton crop, they will say what shall be the price of cotton and you will be compelled to accept it. Do you prefer to crush this trust now, or will you wait until—well, until you can't do it? It rests with you.

Among our exchanges we notice Fruit and Farm, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, a very creditable sheet "from the wild and wooly West." Oklahoma is a new country—and a rich one. Lawson, Oklahoma, one of the neighboring towns, has only four houses, but is located in two counties and four townships. That's what they call a town. Cotton makes about a bale per acre, and cotton picking be gan quite a while ago. Among the two or three men, and that peanuts are being used for coffee and peanut oil

# A FABLE.

Two fine steers were slowly moving along with heads down in a rich, juicy meadow which they had been forbid den to enter. The farmer seeing them where they had no right to be, went and accused them of eating the grass. This they instantly and vehemently denied. "But," said they, "if you think that because you find us here, we are eating grass, we will prove the falsity of your charge by going out on a barren hill." And out they went while the farmer and his children laughed at the fullness of their sides.

#### INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM IN ILLINOIS.

The Swiss and German residents of the State of Illinois are endeavoring to secure the adoption of constitutional provisions looking to the adoption of the initiative and referendum in that State. While these measures have been discussed quite freely in this country for some time, but little has been done to engraft them upon our present form of government, though

But in Swi'zerland, the oldest reputlic in the world, the referendum has

whenever 30,000 Swiss electors or eight cantons so demand. Comparatively few demands of this nature are perfected, but of the laws submitted to the people two thirds are rejected. The referendum is popular in Switzerland, and no one anticipates its repeal.

The Illinois friends of the initiative and referendum-the one being as essential as the other-say that they see no other way of defeating the bosses and the money power that have taken possession of the primary and convention machinery. The franchises of the large cities of the State are notoriously sold by the political leaders, and there scems to be no hope of reform except through corrective appeals to the people. The friends of the referendum in Illinois claim to represent 100,000 vot ers, and an organized effort is to be made to put the privilege in the State's Constitution. The movement seems to be irrespective of party or social con ditions. Its advocates desire good gov ernment, and there is scarcely a State that more needs relief from corrupt legislation.

### SEPTEMBER IS HERE.

The Philadelphia Times says that the calendar and customs notwith standing, the New Year begins not in January, but in September. In Sep tember schools starts, the theatres open, libraries are once more peopled with returned readers; art breaks from its chrysalis; music poises its wings for a flight; the churches apply themselves with renewed vigor to the work of saving souls;" etc. Yes, and if the ed itor of the Times had ever been a Tar Heel farmer, he would have something | invested." of the revival of cotton picking and fodder pulling. September brings new life to many occupations. The schools and colleges open once more and, as an inpulating and controlling the price of thing were he not afraid his wife would refuse insurance and transport favor

And we also notice that with the A grower cannot therefore sell his cot opening of the month an exchange has resurrected the following verse, which makes good reading:

"The wind bloweth, The water floweth, The corn groweth, The farmer oweth, The Lord knoweth That we are in need of our dues, So come a runnin'. Ere we go a gunnin', We're not a funnin', This this thing of dunnin' Gives us the everlasting blues."

# THE SHOE FACTORY.

TO THE BROTHERHOOD: -Since the meeting of State Alliance I have worked unceasingly-but every minute that I could snatch has been used for the Alli ance. I have received a number of applications for work in the Shoe Fac tory and in the Tannery, which are all on file. I think I have about secured the services of a first class man whose experience has been ample and whose qualifications are abundantly certified to, who will take charge of and start the Shoe Factory not later than Octo ber 1st. The State Alliance decided that the Factory should be started, and instructed the Executive Committee to proceed with the preliminaries at once. The Executive appointed me to do the correspondence. I began at once and have persevered. I don't think I'm on a cold trail but that I have treed my man, and that I will secure him, and news items we read of the killing of that every member of the Order will rejoice when work begins. Rally, now, brethren and let us at once each man of us secure at least one new member for each meeting of our lodges for the next six months. You shall have shoes, soon now, from our own factory. My word for it, if I do dislike to promise on the top of so many broken promises. Let us work while Fraternally.

> J W. DENMARK, Chm'n Ex. Com. N. C. S. F. A. September 4, 1897.

We call attention to the "statement showing the condition of the Ameri can Union Life Insurance Company" which appered in last week's issue. The General Agent for this State, Mr. J. H. Southgate, is a well know and enterprising citizen of Durham and will undoubtedly do his best to please you. The Company which he represents, like himself, needs no endorsement from us. The statement speaks for itself and proves the American Union Life Insurance Company a reliable one.

Populists believe that law makets and unmakes money; that the value of the dollar has no relation whatever to the material out of which it made: they are becoming more popular every | that the value is fixed by the number of dollars in circulation, compared with the demand by the peope. Popu lists believe that it is the duty of congress to provide and, through the exe- rule the ranch. Let politicians take been in use in some cantons nearly 50 cutive department, keep in circulation back seats till called for. years; in all since 1874. A law must a sufficient amount of money at the now be submitted to popular vote least possible expense to the people.

JONES' TRUST.

Mr. Jones is of Arkansas. He is. Senator and likewise chairman of a Chicago Democratic party which flight for 16 to 1 eilver and against truste w every form and every character.

Nor are these all that Jones from A. kansaw is. He belongs to Searle's Col indrical Baling-for Cotton process Searles is Secretary Sugar Trust and President of the Cylindrical Balin concern, named, in order to catch such ers, the American Cotton Company Jones is a director in this company, company which, whatever else may claimed for it, will in the end control the price of cotton, paid to produce and by the consumer, just as the pris of sugar is controlled.

The Jones Searles cotton baling trus is now actively engaged in establishin plants all over the country, and it promised, that having placed presse rapidly in the last "three weeks in Texas, Tennessee, Mississippi and Ala bams. it now proposes to place themin Louisiana, Arkansas, Georgia and the two Carolinas in time for this season crop." In other words, the Searls. Jones cotton baling trust proposes to buy, pack and control the cotton cron of 1897.

To show the "advantage" to the cot. ton grower it is proposed to place three of these presses in New Orleans, which is situated a hundred miles or more from the cotton fields, and these trus promoters propose to bid at the station a price, not, mind you, to the interest and benefit of the grower, but one that will "more than repay the owners of the presses for the amount they have

This will be very easy to do when the company is prepared to "handle the cotton crop." The process of ma

Insurance companies and transports to all cotton not cylindrically baled, ton to others than those who own this pressing process, and the pressing plants. By this means the Searles Jones Cylindrical Baling Company but a clinch on the price of every pound d cotton grown in America, and every toiling cotton grower is as completely at the mercy of the concern as if he were their slave.

There are trusts, but this cylindrical bale combination tops the climax of organizations in restraint of trade. In presence of this concern, which can by a simple flash of the wire, accord millions by putting down the price d the raw cotton while in the hands of the producer and re scoop other millions when the consumer must purchase by putting it up, even the Standard 01 combine pales into insignificance.-New Orleans Item.

#### MECKLENBURG COUNTY ALL! ANCE MEETING

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer. At the regular quarterly July meet ing of Mecklenburg County Alliance it was thought best to pesspone the election of efficers until after the State Alliance meeting, consequently they elected a delegate to the State Alliand and adjourned to meet in Charlotte on the 20th of August at 12 o'clock Promptly at 12 noon on the 20th, Presi dent N. Gibbon called the County All ance to order in the People's party office.

The Secretary reported five Sub represented by delegates. A report of the State meeting was made by one who attended it and was received with enthusiasm by all the brethren present. The Alliance the

went into the election of efficers, which resulted as follows: J K. Rankin, President; A. J. Hunter, Vice-President; R. W. Elliott, Secre tary Treasurer; J. R. Utley, Lecturer, W. A. Jamison, Assistant Lecturer; P. Alexander, Chaplain; J. W. Wr shaw, Door-keeper; R. W. Cape, Ser geant at Arms; J. H. Alexander, Bus-

ness Agent; J. A. Wilson, N. Gibbon and Leander Query, Executive Com-Every one are good men and and actively engaged in farming. Prest dent Rankin is a thoroughly practical

man and will, it is believed, make one of the best Presidents the county has ever had. We can say the same of all -that the county has no better men . Af the installation and some speech making, the Alliance adjourned. Every brother present went away in fine

spirits and pledging himself to go to work to build up their respective Sub-Alliances. The lecturer will make a canvass of the different Subs in the county at all

early day. You old hayseeders in the East will hear from us up this way by and y, and in the meantime we would be pieused to have Bros. Seawell and Brickhouse, Lecturer and Assistant Lecturer, put in an appearance up this way while we are shelling the woods Drop your partisan politics, breth

ren, and all get into line in the Alliand and edulate yourselves on the reform in your demands. Let the politicians junket the country and cut all the ich they please. You can find men to rep resent you at the proper time. This is not a campaign year, and the less poll tics you have the better off you will !! when the time comes to show your hand. Let the people get in line and

J. P. SOSSAMAN, National Lecturer.